

Merger of RPF with GRP

**1153. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether faced with increasing violence and disruption of its services by naxalites and extremists, the Railways has sought heavier security cover and special armed escorts for its trains in the affected areas;
- (b) if so, whether the Ministry of Home Affairs have agreed to meet the security arrangements as asked by the Railways;
- (c) if so, whether the authorities are ready with a proposal for merger of the Railway Protection Force and Government Railway Police to set up a unified special centre force for tighter security on trains; and
- (d) if so, whether proposal has been approved and final decision taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (c) No, Sir.

(b) and (d) Do not arise.

Doubling of Ernakulam-Trivandrum Sector

1154. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of doubling work in the Ernakulam-Trivandrum Sector (via-Alapuzha and Kottayam);
- (b) the money allotted and spent so far; and
- (c) the expected time of completion the doubling of the above line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) Details of on-going doubling works in the Ernakulam-Trivandrum via Kottayam & Alleppey alongwith expenditure incurred upto March, 2006, outlay provided during 2006-07 and target date for completion